GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1599
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2016
Thermal Power Production
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of thermal power produced in the country;

(b) whether the thermal power plants are operating at an all time low of over 50% of their capacities, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Electricity authority have also warned that the unprecedented surge in renewable energy capacity in the next few years will severely stress thermal power plants;

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken corrective steps in this regard; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to generate more power making the country power surplus?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER,
COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) : During 2016-17 (April to October), 568.85 Billion Units of thermal power was produced in the country.
(b) : The average Plant Load Factor (PLF) of thermal power plants (coal/lignite) during 2016-17 (April − October, 2016) was 59.17%. However, the PLF for gas based power plants during 2016-17 (April − October, 2016) was 23.59%.
(c) & (d) : No, Madam.
(e) : The following steps have been taken to generate more power making the country power surplus:

(i) During the 12th Plan period (2012-17), a capacity addition of about 88928.2 MW against the target of 88537 MW from conventional sources have been achieved till 31st October, 2016 and about 21,128 MW against the target of 30000 MW from renewable sources have been achieved till 30th September, 2016.
(ii) Adequate supply of the domestic coal to power plants has been ensured. The growth of domestic coal supply to power plants has been around 6.2% during 2015-16.
(iii) During the 12th Plan period (2012-17), 1,00,468 ckm against the target of 1,07,440 ckm of transmission lines and 2,88,458 MVA against the target of 2,82,750 MVA of transformation capacity have been completed till 31st October, 2016.

(iv) Government of India has taken an initiative to prepare State specific Action Plans for providing 24X7 Power For All (PFA) in partnership with the States.
(v) Two new schemes have been launched by the Government of India, namely, Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) and Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution networks and for segregation of agricultural feeders to give adequate and reliable supply and reduce line losses.
(vi) Government of India has taken several steps to promote energy conservation, energy efficiency and other demand side management measures.
(vii) Central Government has notified Ujjwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY) scheme on 20.11.2015 for Operational & Financial Turnaround of DISCOMs.
(viii) Government of India has taken steps for expeditious resolution of issues relating to Environmental and forest clearances for facilitating early completion of generation and transmission projects.
(ix) Government of India has launched a scheme by providing support from Power System Development Fund (PSDF) for stranded gas based generation.
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